

PANTHER PRIDE

School Principals: Shawna Coplen, Lynn Cragg

<http://osb.k12.ok.us/>

3. Qtr. Honor Roll (EL&MS)

“A” Honor Roll

Elementary (3-5 Gr.)

Braylen Fuller
Hunter Kelley
Stephanie Story

Middle School (6-8 Gr.)

Katelynn Zampella

“B” Honor Roll

Elementary

Treysen Brown
Hayden Bruzzini
Jaylee Burnside
Avery Dollar
Noah Dougan
Blake Priddy
Quanté Sellers

Middle School

Dayton Baccus
Julia Cisneros
Josephina Cox
Angel Cozort
Kyler Harrington
Emileigh Jackson
Skyler Moore
Lilith Pedersen
Gerardo Rodriguez



Students of the
3. Qtr.

EL: Quanté Sellers
MS: Katelynn Zampella
HS: Julio Valdez

Reminder
High School students receive only semester grades, therefore will only be considered for Semester Honor Roll.

Oklahoma School for the Blind

2019 - 2020, Issue 5

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Editor: Maggie Mattox

Special points of interest:

- Dr. Seuss' activities
- Panther Pride
- Microcredits
- Black History Month
- Disability Awareness Day
- Braille Challenge
- OK Close Up

Special Olympics Award



Congratulations
Mrs. Tera Webb, for being awarded Area 10 Special Olympics

Coach of the Year.



Read Across America - Dr. Seuss at OSB

By Rita Echelle

I wanted to give a “shout out” to all of those participating in the Dr. Seuss week activities. It has been a wonderful time for our students, and I have enjoyed watching all of our school participate in the bulletin board/door/hallway contest. They were all very creative and fun to see! I had the opportunity of taking the judges around to each entry. You ALL should be commended

on your hard work and enthusiasm!

The special meal/snacks and guest readers were a treat for the students. I know many of you had a part in making this possible. Thank you so very much!

The winners of the bulletin board/door/hallway contest were:

- First Place**
- Jeremy Jackman
- Second Place**
- Jeana Jones

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Read Across America - Dr. Seuss at OSB (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Third Place (Tie)

Cassie Shelton & Jennifer Eckerson

It's wonderful to see the entire school working together to

make a great time for our students.

Thank you, Annette Wilson, for helping organize this fun and educational time.



Together Everyone Accomplishes More

Rita Echelle, M. Ed., Superintendent

Dr. Seuss' Read Across America Day – March 2nd

By Annette Wilson

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.” This simple saying by Dr. Seuss shows us that the sky's the limit when you have books! Reading brings so many things to life in the imagination and opens doors to places that you've never been through.

The OSB students ALL rocked the **“Read Across America”** day on March 2nd!

Starting the celebrations was no biggie for our teachers and staff:

The cafeteria made none other than Green Eggs and Ham! What a treat for bringing this book to life for not just the kids but everyone.



Green scrambled eggs & ham

The fun did not end there, oh no! Craig Day from **News Channel 6** came to the school and read to the elementary children in the Rec. He enjoyed reading and



Craig Day in our Dr. Seuss Wonderland



Craig Day surrounded by his helpers (HS students) and Elem. students

answering questions from the kids. He even took a moment to take a group picture with some of us that dressed for the occasion. Thank you Craig Day for helping make this day fun for the kids.

Our Librarian, Mrs. Jackman supplied everyone with cupcakes and refreshments after Mr. Day's reading.



Many participated in the bulletin board/wall/hallway contest where participants paid just \$2 (*winner takes it all*) and decorated according to a Dr. Seuss book or books. All of them were works of art and aah-mazing! Along with the decorating of the boards we also had Nancy Brice create a Dr. Seuss wonderland in the Rec.

There could only be one winner in the contest though and thankfully we had the Muskogee Area Educational Consortium help with deciding the winner.

Mr. Jackman won and took home the jackpot (all entry fees). Runner up was Mrs.

Jeana Jones and it was a third place tie between Mrs. Shelton and Mrs. Eckerson!

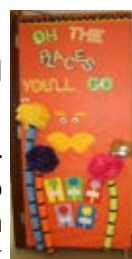


2nd Place

Our high school students also got to read to the elementary children and continued to rock



1st Place



3rd Place Eckerson

the day for the kids! Thank you Mrs. Goins and Mrs. Jackman for organizing this.

This was our first year of doing this and we are already thinking of more ideas to make it even better next year!

Our Dr. Seuss committee did a phenomenal job in planning this event and I want to take a moment to thank each and every one of them. Mrs. Echelle, Mrs. Coplen, Mrs. Cragg, Mrs. Jeana Jones, Mrs. Callie Mariah, Dawn Bryant, Mrs. Shelton, Mrs. Goins, Mrs. Jackman, Nancy Brice and Karen Reed, **THANK YOU** all for making reading fun for the children! If you would like to be a part of next year's planning, please contact Annette Wilson.



Thing 1, 2 and 4 with our own "Cat in the Hat"



Front Office



3rd Place Shelton



Student voting for his favorite Dr. Seuss character

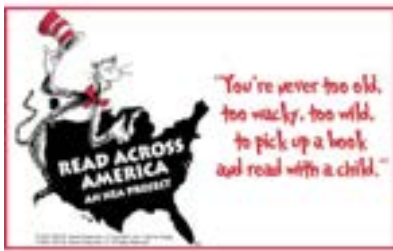


Reading makes you Grow.

Dr. Seuss' Read Across America Day – March 2nd (continued)

By Laci Goins

March 2, 2020 was National "Read Across America" Day.



This is an initiative to encourage reading and is celebrated on the school day closest to the birthday of the famous Dr. Seuss every year.

This year the high school students wanted to do their part to promote reading by sharing



their favorite Dr. Seuss book with the elementary students.



They turned the book "Yertle the Turtle" into reader's theatre.



Reader's theatre is a technique that promotes fluency and helps readers practice reading aloud with expression. It is like presenting a play, but staying in your chair.

The elementary students enjoyed having the older students read to them and the high school

students had a lot of fun "acting out" the parts of the story.

It was a great day promoting reading across OSB.



Dr. Seuss at the gym ...



... still at the gym



At one of our dorms...



100 Days of Panther Pride

By Laci Goins

On February 25th OSB celebrated our "100th day of school".

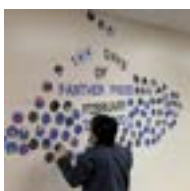
The Jr/Sr class wanted to mark this day by creating a mural of 100 panther paws on the south wall of the 5th floor hallway.



100th day mural

Students and staff decorated paws and placed them on the wall.

Each paw was an original masterpiece showing the artist's Panther Pride.



Student adding a new paw.

We learned a lot the first 100 days of school and are looking forward to the rest of the year!

*100 days we have been in school.
Our teachers say we are pretty cool!*

*100 days smarter, yes it is true,
100 days of reading, writing, and math too!*

*We have learned a lot of exciting things,
Let's see what the next 100 brings!*

*We are going to have fun, we will let out a cheer,
Our hundredth day is finally here!*



Kentrell showing off his pride.



Mr. & Mrs. Jackman



Elem. Students reading the paws.



Mrs. Young Mock

Social Services Department - News, Tips, etc.



It's never too late to be caught being good.... So keep up the good work students!!

We are proud of you all!

Do good even when no one is looking.

Opportunities can be found anywhere, at home, in your neighborhood, in the grocery store... Just be the best you that you can be. You never know how you may affect someone else's life.

"Caught Being Good"

- ◆ Ryan H. - for helping another student.
- ◆ Xane A. - for helping in the hallway.
- ◆ Haidyn J. - for helping a teacher.
- ◆ Genevieve F. - for sharing with a student.
- ◆ Jacob N. - for helping another student in the cafeteria.
- ◆ Kesslee T. - for letting another student go before her on the swings.
- ◆ Liam R. - for helping a teacher carry a basket.
- ◆ Rudy H. - for helping a teacher put things on the shelf.
- ◆ Delilah H. - for helping another student.
- ◆ Lilith P. - for helping a teacher clean off the table.
- ◆ Anicka W. - for letting another student go before her in the cafeteria.
- ◆ Mykel E. - for helping a teacher put up some books on a shelf.
- ◆ Gerardo R. - for helping another student find their book.
- ◆ Skyler M. - for helping a teacher pick up books.
- ◆ Kolten p. - for helping another student in the cafeteria.
- ◆ Abbygale S. - for helping a student find their backpack.
- ◆ Tyanna C. - for helping another find their way to the rec.
- ◆ Rayce P. - for helping a teacher in the hallway.
- ◆ Samantha S. - for helping another access their computer.
- ◆ Julio V. - for helping another student solve a problem.
- ◆ John D. - for helping a student with a computer problem.
- ◆ Ben M. - for lending a hand to another student with a project.
- ◆ Blazen S. - for helping a student find their chair.
- ◆ Johnnie D. - for helping another student find their way in the hall.
- ◆ Emma S. - for helping out in the rec.

Word of the Month - **C ONFIDENCE !**

The word of the month for April is **"CONFIDENCE"** !!!



Everything that you do or don't do comes down to confidence.

Always believe in yourself even when it's not easy. Actually, the best time to believe in yourself even more, is when it's not easy!

It's not always easy being a kid! There are lot of new challenges that you face every day. Like raising your hand in class or making new friends. No matter how old you are, **one thing that will help is confidence!**

So, what is confidence all about? Confidence is believing in yourself. It's about not doubting your skills and knowing what you are capable of!

Some kids naturally have a lot of confidence. They take on

leadership roles and excel in what they pursue. For others, who are not so confident, they question their ability to do things.

Confidence is also something that you can grow.

Trying new things each day and challenging yourself help you believe in yourself more. Because of your achievements, big or small, you will develop more confidence.

(Continued on page 5)

Word of the Month for April - **CONFIDENCE** ! (continued)

(Continued from page 4)



Every day you can accomplish something to build your confidence. It could be something big like running for class president or playing a new sport for the first time. Or it could be a smaller thing like volunteering to go first in class. As you do little things and big things, you will believe more in yourself. And with each new skill or action, you will increase your confidence!

This collection of confidence quotes for kids can also serve as inspiration for building your confidence. Follow the advice of the people below and they will help you become the best version of yourself!

- ◆ "Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence."
– Helen Keller
- ◆ "With confidence, you have won before you have started."
– Marcus Garvey
- ◆ "There is a difference between conceit and confidence. Conceit is bragging about yourself. Confidence means you believe you can get the job done."
– Johnny Unitas
- ◆ "Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy."
– Norman Vincent Peale

- ◆ "All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then success is sure."
– Mark Twain
- ◆ "You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face."
– Eleanor Roosevelt
- ◆ "If you have no confidence in self, you are twice defeated in the race of life."
– Marcus Garvey
- ◆ "The most beautiful thing you can wear is confidence."
– Blake Lively
- ◆ "Confidence isn't optimism or pessimism, and it's not a character attribute. It's the expectation of a positive outcome."
– Rosabeth Moss Kanter
- ◆ "You have to have confidence in your ability, and then be tough enough to follow through."
– Rosalynn Carter
- ◆ "Experience tells you what to do; confidence allows you to do it."
– Stan Smith
- ◆ "Confidence comes from hours and days and weeks and years of constant work and dedication."
– Roger Staubach
- ◆ "Believe you can and you're halfway there."
– Theodore Roosevelt
- ◆ "With realization of one's own potential and self-confidence in one's ability, one can build a better world."
– Dalai Lama
- ◆ "Nothing builds self-esteem and self-confidence like

accomplishment." – Thomas Carlyle

- ◆ "One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation."
– Arthur Ashe
- ◆ "Confidence comes not from always being right but from not fearing to be wrong."
– Peter T. McIntyre
- ◆ "True beauty is the flame of self-confidence that shines from the inside out."
– Barrie Davenport



Microcredits/-loans - 6th Grade Geography lesson

By Paul Butler

The 6th Grade Western Geography class was recently studying about Central America and the Caribbean Islands. Our textbook was sharing illustrations of how a **Microcredit (or Microloan)** many times changes a large number of people's lives in these areas.

Microcredit is a small loan, often times less than \$200 dollars - many times about \$85 dollars. The Borrowers in Central America and the Caribbean invest this loan in various kinds of business ventures, such as a sewing machine, which enables them to start making clothes in order to sell, or maybe poultry in order to sell the eggs, just to name a few. Our textbook brought out that there is a **97 percent success rate** in the repayment of these Microcredit loans as well, which are paid back in small increments.

Often it changes impoverished people's lives in these areas, as it gives them a way to make an income and support themselves. This principle is also applied in other parts of the world like Africa or India.

So, in our 6th Grade class we learned about profit/lost and what an investment was and how it takes money to make money. I challenged the students to take a Microloan of \$5 dollars from me to try to invest it into a business venture of some sort in order to make a profit. I had 4 of the 6 students take me up on my challenge.

First, I had them gather ideas from family, other teachers, staff, adults, and friends, possible ways in which the student might invest the microloan of \$5 dollars in order to gain a profit and then they could choose from the list of ideas.

Josie Cox and Anicka Weller went into business together, combining

their loans of \$5 dollars each and purchased a box of Graham crackers, a bag of fun size Hershey Chocolate Bars and a bag of Large Marshmallows. We all washed our hands thoroughly, sanitized the class tables and formed an assembly line making up 26 individual S'mores Singles Kits, ready to purchase in individual Ziploc bags.



The S'mores Girls

“The S'mores Girls,” as I called them, sold their “S'mores Singles” like hot cakes in less than 3 hours making \$26 dollars and after paying back their Microloan of \$5 each, Anicka & Josie made a **profit of \$8 each**.



Next, Kyler Harrington took my Microloan of \$5 and purchased Starburst and M&M's. Kyler “The Candy Man”, as I called him, did not sell his product as fast as the S'more's Girls but in a week he had sold \$15 dollars' worth of candy, so after paying back his microloan he made a **profit of \$10 dollars**.



The Candy Man

A little humor, when Kyler came back to school this Monday I asked him if he had any of his profit left? He said no, he had gone bankrupt over the weekend.



Lastly, Julia Cisneros decided to take the microloan of \$5 dollars and to invest in materials in order to make bracelets, buying a large bag of beads and elastic



Julia with her beads.

string at Walmart. Julia made bracelets of all different colors and sold them for \$2 dollars each. After paying back her microloan of \$5 dollars, Julia made a **profit of \$83 dollars** in a week. WOW!



To say the least, I was **EXTREMELY PROUD** of these 6th Graders and their business adventures.

At the end of our experiment, each student that participated voluntarily donated a small portion of their profits along with my donation and we are sending a benevolence offering to a family in Guatemala, Central America via another OSB teacher, Mrs. Shelton.

In conclusion, with this Microcredit experiment my students have learned about credit, profit/loss, work ethic, organization, responsibility, and benevolence.

GREAT JOB EVERYONE!

Thank you,
Mr. Butler



And the winner is ...



Middle School Biography Essays - Black History Month

By Rachel Butler



8th graders

In February our 7th and 8th graders researched and presented Biography Essays celebrating Black History month.

Our students did a phenomenal job on their research and their presentations.

We were also honored to have several visitors be part of our



Priscilla

audience and interact with our students.

Some of the amazing historic icons our students researched included: Harriet Tubman, George Washington Carver, Miles Davis, Benjamin Banneker, Louis Armstrong, Jackie Robinson, and several others.

Participants included:

Ocie, Koltan, Skyler, Priscilla, Jerry, Katelynn, Scott, Emileigh, and Mykel.



Ocie



Audience (partial)

Great Job Everyone!

Mrs. Butler



8th Grade Haiku Poetry

By Rachel Butler

Our 8th graders also got introduced to **Haiku poetry** and gave it a try.

Here are some of their poems.

Katelynn

Black history is
An interesting topic
It is important.

About Dr. Seuss
Author and illustrator
One of the greatest.

Priscilla

Tubman was so great.
Underground Railroad Leader.
And she was so nice.

Dr. Seuss was great.
Making children laugh and smile.
While they read a book.

Emileigh & Mykel

The cat in the hat
Is a very awesome cat
Who makes children laugh.

Miles Davis was
A jazz trumpeter that was
Also very rude.

Scott

Harriot Tubman
A hero of her time
She was very strong.

Jackie Robinson
Brings an inner strength
To inspire kids also.

Jerry

Booker Washington
He is a native leader
For all Africans.

Dr. Seuss is cool
Because of the neat knowledge
That he shares with all.

Definition of HAIKU:

an unrhymed verse form of **Japanese** origin having three lines containing usually five, seven, and five syllables respectively also:

a poem in this form usually having a seasonal reference.

Haiku is a form of poetry that focuses on a brief moment in time, and a sense of sudden illumination or enlightenment.

A **haiku** is usually composed of seventeen syllables in three short lines. The first line often contains five syllables, the second line seven syllables, and the third line five syllables.



2020 DRS Disability Awareness Day

By Susan Young Mock

Student representatives from OSB traveled to Oklahoma City *early* in the morning of Monday, March 9, to visit with legislators and share the challenges, concerns, and hopes of their peers.

Those attending were: De'Poris Willis, a senior from Sand Springs, Kaylee Ragon, a senior from Tecumseh, Austin Wade, a junior from Collinsville, Kaylie Minter, a sophomore from Broken Bow, and Julio Valdez, a sophomore from Oklahoma City. Also attending were Mrs. Cragg, Principal, Mrs. Garner, FACS Instructor, and Mrs. Mock, Marketing Education Instructor.



OSB students and teachers in front of the capitol.

The students presented "impact statements" and pictures to their local Representative and Senator as well as Muskogee County's Representatives and Senators.

Each student visited with legislators stressing the importance of the education they have received at OSB and how their public schools



Austin posing with one of the statues

couldn't provide the same quality education due to their visual impairments.

During the afternoon sessions, the group was introduced in both houses and given standing ovations. The students finished out their long day visiting with congressmen.

Tuesday, March 10, the group joined Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell and DRS staff members at the State Capitol for the 2019 DRS Awards Ceremony.

(Note: because of the construction in the Capitol, the traditional Disability Awareness Day activities were canceled.)

Roy and Rose Anna Webb of Silver Spur Ranch and Sharon Breeding, the volunteer liaison between Silver Spur and OSB, were honored as **DRS Business Partner and Volunteer of the Year**.



"receiving the award"

Additionally, **De'Poris "Dee" Willis** was honored as **DRS Student of the Year!**



Dee W. receiving his award.



The OSB representatives did an outstanding job advocating for all blind and visually impaired people and had fun while doing so.



"receiving the award"

18th Oklahoma Regional Braille Challenge

By Kaylee Ragon

It was a chilly morning on March 4th, but that didn't stop these 28 contestants from loading up a bus to Oklahoma City for the annual Braille Challenge! The students were nervous about the tests but they had no idea what fun was in store this year.

In the past, we've hosted the Braille Challenge on our school campus, but this year, NewView Oklahoma opened their doors and hosted us in their new building that opened just a few months ago. This is a facility with a low vision clinic, occupational therapy rooms, and assistive technology. However, it looked a little different today, braille writers everywhere, Victor Reader Streams waiting to be used, and medals and prizes laid out waiting to be won.

The contestants piled off the bus and after an encouraging speech from our fearless leader, Mrs. Miller, we took off to the testing rooms!

Within minutes, fingers were flying and braille writers were shaking the table. Kids were spelling, reading, analyzing graphs, finding errors, and there was no time for slowing down.

After a few tests, we were able to take a break and enjoy lunch while talking to our new friends from NewView! Before we knew it, it was time to get back to work! We didn't think that the tests were ever going to end! Finally the proctors told us our time was up, and we could go out to the main room and play games until it was time for awards!

Awards

Apprentice

Gold - Kennedy Sullivan
Silver - Kye Shrum (from Perry Public Schools)
Bronze - Gabby Henderson

Apprentice 2

Gold - Miracle Jones
Silver - Genevieve Fitzgerald
Bronze - Lane Sutterfield

Freshman

Gold - Stephanie Story
Silver - Jaylee Burnside

Freshman 2

Gold - Kaylee Ragon
Silver - Morgan Hudson
Bronze - Ben Middleton

Sophomore

Gold - Hunter Kelley
Silver - Delilah Howell
Bronze - Lilith Pederson

Junior Varsity

Gold - Julio Valdez
Silver - Elbin Carrillo
Bronze - Kolton Pennington

Apprentice and Freshman Overall

Stephanie Story

Sophomore and JV Overall

Julio Valdez

Thank you to all the volunteers, the many staff and teachers who came with us to Oklahoma City, and all of our sponsors!

Sponsors:

Humanware - National Braille Press - Seedlings Braille Books for Children - Oklahoma School for the Blind - NewView Oklahoma - Liberty Braille - Frank Dirksen - NanoPac - Sapulpa Lions Club - Oklahoma AER - Oklahoma Council of the Blind - Reliant Rehabilitation - SERVPRO



Contestants anxiously wait for the competition to start!



Volunteer scorekeepers are hard at work all day long! Mrs. Miller makes sure everything is running smoothly behind the scenes!



The apprentice group enjoy a lunch break of pizza and cookies!



Kaylee and a NewView staff member play a game with inflatable bowling pins. This is how you use them right?



A group photo of the volunteers and contestants. Many proudly showing off the medals around their necks. Great job everyone!

Oklahoma Close Up

By Jeremy Jackman

At Oklahoma Close Up, students from across the state gather together at the capitol, spending three days in February exploring current events and how Oklahoma's government impacts their lives.

This year, Tyler Duong and Benjamin Middleton participated in the program. They met with key members of the Legislature, the Executive Branch and the Judiciary to learn from them and to discuss issues with them.



they accompanied her to a committee meeting on healthcare with Governor Stitt. Ben commented that after learning about how government works in the classroom, his understanding was broadened through his experiences in Oklahoma City.

Mock legislation was one of our students' favorite activities. This took place over several days and included writing a bill, debating, committee hearings, and voting. Tyler noted that he felt he benefited from social interaction with students from other schools.



program "Close Up", which our school also participates in. These are experiential programs that provide students, educators, and policymakers the opportunity to come together to enhance the understanding of our government.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the sponsors that made this experience possible for our students:

The Oklahoma Foundation for the Education of Blind Children & Youth

and

The Zarrow Foundation.



Thank you for your support!



Program workshops gave them the opportunity to explore their own ideas and share views with their peers.

Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr. of the Cherokee Nation and Joy Hofmeister, State Superintendent of Public Instruction were the opening speakers.

On day two, Tyler and Benjamin shadowed Representative Toni Hasenbeck from district 65, where

The key note speaker at the banquet on day three was the Honorable George Nigh, former governor of Oklahoma (1979-1987).

The program concluded on Friday at the State Capitol with several speakers and a small group session.

Oklahoma Close Up is a non-profit organization modeled after the Washington, D.C. based



OSB remembers - 75th anniversary

By Cheryl Daniels

At this time, 75 years ago, OSB campus sat empty much as it is now. The only two times in the school's history since opening in 1907.

Seventy-five years ago, on **April 12, 1945**, a tornado ripped through Muskogee, Oklahoma that took the lives of eleven people, three being OSB students.

The tornado destroyed the school buildings and devastated the staff,

families, and students. The three girls killed that day were: Alda Stephens, Jaunita Moss, and Dolores Hix.

People came together from around the community to help house and feed the remaining students until they could get to their families. School was suspended through the rest of the year.

OSB is planning a memorial ceremony to recognize the victims

during this 75th year anniversary. The ceremony was originally set for April 9th but due to Distance Learning and the current pandemic, will be rescheduled, hopefully, for the fall.



Robotics

By Robert Miller & Kaylee Ragon

Thanks to the support of the Oklahoma Foundation for the Education of Blind Children and Youth mini-grants to purchase **Sphero SPRK+ robots** and other equipment, elementary students have been able to join middle and high school students and experience programming and robotics.

In order to make a robot do what you want, you have to know what you want it to do.

Elementary students started by measuring how far they wanted their robot to go.



Then, if they needed to make it go left, right, or turn around and come back.



The students got increasingly difficult obstacle courses to negotiate their robot through as their coding skills improved.

The elementary students did a fantastic job learning to code their Sphero SPRK+ robots!



Middle and high school students had more advanced programming tasks.

They used a programming language called **Python** to program a **Raspberry Pi** to control a robotic car.

A Raspberry Pi is a computer the size of a credit card without a screen or keyboard.

To make the robotic car move, they had to have a way to power the wheels and program sensors.

They used a breadboard and learned basic electrical components to configure the robot.



The kids also designed their own robotic car body parts and printed them using a 3-D printer.

Sphero SPRK+ is a programmable robot ball designed to inspire creativity and curiosity through coding and play. Easily learn programming, complete hands-on activities, and share your creations with the community in the Sphero Edu app.

Python is an interpreted, high-level, general-purpose programming language. Created by Guido van Rossum and first released in 1991, Python's design philosophy emphasizes code readability with its notable use of significant whitespace.

Python is a wonderful and powerful programming language that's easy to use (easy to read and write) and, with **Raspberry Pi**, lets you connect your project to the real world. Python syntax is very clean, with an emphasis on readability, and uses Standard English keywords.



Recreation Activities

We started March off with a tribute to Dr. Seuss in honor of his birthday.

One night we watched Dr. Seuss movies, another night we celebrated our students March birthdays along with Dr. Seuss's birthday. And on a third night we had our wacky Wednesday fun night games. We truly did have a blast and all the kids asked if we would do that again.

Right before spring break we made our slime and foam (see recipe).



We ended our week by celebrating national popcorn day.

Don't tell anyone but we celebrated it a day early.



What we didn't know was that it would be the last week - for this school year - on campus.

On a personal note I truly enjoyed my first year as Rec director and I wish we would had a better goodbye but I love you all and stay safe



Nancy Brice,
Rec Director

How to Make Slime With Contact Solution Ingredients

- 1x 6 oz bottle of Elmer's (Glitter) glue
- ½ teaspoon Baking Soda
- 1½ tsp. of Contact Lens Solution (must contain boric acid)
- 1 tsp. water – optional: add 2 tsp to up to ½ cup of water if you'd like a stretchier slime.
- Optional: add in extra glitter if desired

Instructions

1. Get a bowl to mix your slime ingredients in.
2. Pour your entire 6 oz Elmer's Glitter glue into a bowl.
3. Add your baking soda and mix in thoroughly.
Also add 1 tsp of water here (or more, up to ½ cup, if you want a stretchier slime).
4. Slowly add in your contact lens solution (reminder: your contact lens solution should contain boric acid or your slime will not form). Add it in slowly and mix if possible so that you can adjust and ensure you do not add too much.
You may not need the full amount, so take this step slowly.
5. Now mix until your slime forms and begins to harden. Take it out and knead, knead, knead. You may be surprised how much you need to knead to really make the slime form. If it's not the desirable consistency keep kneading. If you find it to still be too sticky, add a little bit of lotion or baby oil to your hands.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE



Following employees were nominated for their devoted support of our students, staff and school:

I would like to nominate the OSB E-Team. Throughout this pandemic they have definitely gone the extra mile to ensure that the staff and students are safe. They have worked hard to ensure that distance learning and technology is available to everyone. Thank you.

Dawn Bryant

Mrs. Becky LaRue, thank you for assisting me in my classroom this year! You go above and beyond to ensure our kids have a wonderful educational experience!

Mrs. Shelton, thank you for all you do for our students during the year!

Jennifer Eckerson

I'd like to thank our maintenance and janitorial departments for everything they've done for our school!! Whether it was for protecting us against the virus or moving furniture, we thank you!! You guys and gals ROCK!!!

Thank you to everyone that helped me organize the Dr. Seuss Day for the kids!!

Thank you all for participating in the door/bulletin board/wall decorating contest!! They were amazing creations!!!

Annette Wilson

Thank you to....

- ♦ Laci Goins for including teachers on calls with hard-to-reach students.
- ♦ Robert Miller for assisting with students' distance technology issues.
- ♦ Shawna Coplen for helping me get in touch with a staff member to locate a book.

Cheryl Daniels

Thank you Laci Goins for working hard to help people with

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GOING THE EXTRA MILE



(Continued from page 12)

Zoom and other new technologies.

Ann Page

Thank you Samantha Charles for helping with technology and for helping edit videos.

Sherry Holder

Thank you to Nurse Connie and Mr. Jackman, who both helped so much with our track practices! Mr. Jackman was an awesome sighted guide for Kentrell. Nurse Connie really helped as a team nurse and trained alongside the team.

Thank you to Mike Bynum and Billy O'Neal. They both worked hard to try to get the long jump pit ready.

Thank you all. I greatly appreciate you.

Tera Webb

Samantha Charles has gone the extra mile creating new Outreach documents and learning spaces for the outreach team's virtual online teaching during the COVID-19. Thank you Sam for all the hard work!

Barbara Collins

I'd like to nominate all of the elementary teaching staff for "going the extra mile" for all of the planning and

implementation of distance learning lessons. They have had to do extra planning and mail out packets to cater to our students' specific needs and communicate with their students on an ongoing basis. They have all risen above and done a great job!

Shawna Coplen

Thank you to...

- ◆ Tera Webb for always being someone the students can depend on for support.
- ◆ Cheryl Daniels for helping the students learn how important it is to give back to the community.
- ◆ Carla Cotney for having the patience to help the students with math.
- ◆ Laura Leatherman for always being there to help out when an extra pair of hands are needed.
- ◆ Ruby Barker for always being there to help the students and the teachers with Braille and for having the patience you have had for so many years.
- ◆ Jennifer Eckerson for being a good role model for the students and others.

Kathy Barrett

Thank you guys for going the extra mile. It is highly appreciated.



Teacher of the Year !

Congratulations
Mrs. Ruby Barker!
You are our teacher of the year for 2019-2020.



Employee of the Year!

Congratulations
Mrs. Becky LaRue!
You are our employee of the year for 2019-2020.



Faye Miller has received the **Blindness and Low Vision Studies Alumna of the Year** from Salus University. Salus University recognized her unparalleled commitment to students with visual impairments and her work in creating growth in the O&M field by supporting state cohort activities and partnership programs.

Congratulations, Faye!

Birthdays

Students

Willis, Dee	4	2
Shepherd, Chris	4	4
Moore, Skyler	4	6
Wade, Austin	4	11
Phillips, Rayce	4	20

Eagle, Mykel	5	9
Hunter, Rudy	5	16
Norton, Abigail "Abby"	5	19
Ritchie, Liam	5	19
Hudson, Morgan	5	21
Carrillo, Elbin	5	23
Valdez, Julio	5	28

Davidson, Johnnie	6	2
England, Nathan	6	5
Zampella, Katelynn	6	5
Zavala, Zoie	6	7
Middleton, Benjamin	6	10
Alender, Allen	6	13
Winter, Shannon	6	25

King, Gabby	7	5
Smith, Abbygale	7	5
Diaz, Priscilla	7	8
Bradley, Lydia	7	20
Priddy, Blake	7	21
Moore, Mannon	7	24
Culley, Tyanna	7	27

Allen, Xane	8	2
Brown, Treysen	8	8
Jackson, Emileigh	8	10
Webster, Ocie	8	12
Henderson, Gabriella	8	18
Minter, Kaylie	8	20
Burnside, Jaylee	8	22



Staff

Timmreck, Christine	4	1
Ferrell, Christopher	4	4
Ramsey, JoAnnette	4	7
Cragg, Lynn	4	13
Gamble, Whitney	4	16
Mattox, Maggie	4	18
Johnson, Shawndra	4	27
<u>Ogle, Jennifer</u>	4	30

Plunkett, Brenda	5	4
Sanders, Karen	5	6
Brooks, Tonya	5	9
Brice, Nancy	5	12
Adams, Linda	5	15
Webb, Tera	5	15
Sterling, Sylvia	5	16
Woods, Gina	5	17
Bynum, Michael	5	18
Reeves, Darlus	5	25
<u>Charles, Samantha</u>	5	30

Butler, Paul	6	4
Bynum, Marcella	6	7
Anderson, Tressy	6	10
Pofahl, Vickie	6	14
Coomer, Rozanna "Rosie"	6	18
Davenport, Traci	6	27
<u>Leatherman, Laura</u>	6	29

Daniels, Cheryl	7	7
Adams, Kathy	7	11
Page, Ann	7	18
Harrison, Sandy	7	20
<u>Givens, Tonya</u>	7	27

Bryan, Karen	8	2
Read, Dennis	8	2
Hinds, Rhonda	8	6
Miller, Robert	8	10
Moore, Munekia	8	10
Roper, Nikki	8	18
Barker, Ruby	8	21
Yochum, Lisa	8	26

Oklahoma School for the Blind

3300 Gibson Street
Muskogee, OK 74403

Toll Free: (877) 229-7136
Voice/TTY: (918) 781-8200
Fax: (918) 781-8300

It takes more than sight to have vision!

Please check out
our website at:



OSB Employee / Staff Changes:

New Hires:

NO new hires at this time.

Resignation/s:

- ◆ Nikki Roper, teacher, effective 7/31/2020.

Retirements:

- ◆ Ruby Barker, teacher, effective 6/30/2020.
- ◆ Sylvia Sterling, school psychologist, effective 7/31/2020.
- ◆ Karen Bryan, ILS instructor, effective 7/31/2020.



UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS !!! - Save the Date/s !!!

Graduation to be held on June 23 @ 3:00 pm

(limited attendance to follow COVID-19 requirements)

School start is scheduled for August 10, 2020.

(Enrollment packages will be send out via reg. mail.)

Have a great and safe summer.

Hope to see you again at school start.